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Operations Support

SPECIAL ACCESS PROGRAMS

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OPR: SAF/AAZ (Maj Sandra B. Hachida)

Certified by: SAF/AAZ (Col Richard L. Weaver)

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- 1.** The Air Force recognizes a national interest in protecting its operational advantages and technological leads over potential adversaries by limiting access to information about, or observation of, some weapons, weapon systems, and operations. This directive therefore establishes policy for Special Access Programs (SAP).
- 2.** The Air Force establishes these programs when knowledge or visual observation of a capability would compromise its advantage and stimulate a comparable or counter capability. SAP controls are separate from special control systems prescribed by the Director of Central Intelligence to protect intelligence information.
- 3.** The Air Force will establish SAPs only after the Secretary of the Air Force formally recommends them and the Deputy Secretary of Defense approves them. The Air Force also will ensure SAPs strictly comply with all laws and directives including those concerning environment, safety, and occupational health.
- 4.** The Air Force will ensure SAPs have fiscal controls and responsibilities, as well as special objectives and requirements beyond those of conventional security programs. The Air Force will ensure contracts bind contractors to a SAP's added requirements and provide for a review at least annually by appropriate officials.
- 5.** The Air Force will include procedures in all SAPs that allow people to report irregularities of fraud, waste, and abuse within secure channels.
- 6.** This policy establishes the following responsibilities and authorities:
 - 6.1.** The Senior Security Official (SAF/AA) is responsible for policy and oversight of all Air Force SAPs.
 - 6.2.** Commanders and program office managers must identify programs that require SAP controls and, once these programs are approved, must conduct them so they comply with this policy.
 - 6.3.** SAP managers will develop the enhanced security measures needed for their programs.

7. This policy applies to all military and civilian personnel involved in acquisition, operations, and intelligence SAPs.
8. This policy derives from Executive Order 12356, *National Security Information*, 2 April 1982; Title 10, United States Code, Chapter 2; Department of Defense Directive 5200.1, *DoD Information Security Program*, June 7, 1982, and Change 1; and DoD Directive O-5205.7, *Special Access Program (SAP) Policy*, January 4, 1989. It implements DoD Directive 5200.1 and DoD Directive O-5205.7.
9. This policy relates to Air Force Instruction 16-701, *Special Access Programs* (formerly AFR 205-7).
10. See **Attachment 1** for the measures used to comply with this policy.

ROBERT J. McCORMICK
Administrative Assistant

Attachment 1

MEASURING AND DISPLAYING POLICY SUCCESS

A1.1. The Air Force will measure the success of SAPs policy by determining the trend in the years of actual technological lead or operational advantage over time against a desired lead or advantage baseline (**Figure A1.1.**). Each program office reports this data to Air Force senior leadership yearly by way of the Special Access Programs Oversight Committee as part of the annual revalidation and security review process. This data will be based on specific intelligence targeting and collection followed by formal intelligence and technology assessments. The assessments will take into account friendly, hostile, and allied capabilities and technologies. SAF/AAZ will obtain, track, control, and maintain this data.

A1.1.1. Each year, the measurement chart will graphically display the trend in maintaining the technological lead against specified competitors. The desired trend for all SAPs is upward or constant. As the trend decreases towards zero, Air Force senior leadership will assess whether the additional security controls under that SAP are necessary.

Figure A1.1. Sample Metric of Technological and Operational Advantage.

